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For: PERFORMANCE TESTING OF SERVER SYSTEMS

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☒ 4 Sheets of Informal Drawings.

☐ A certified copy of a _____ application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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PERFORMANCE TESTING OF SERVER SYSTEMS

Field of the Invention

5 This invention relates to client-server computing environments, in which one or more server machines execute requests issued by, typically, a large number of client machines. The invention relates particularly to performance testing of servers for the purpose of determining whether design and/or operational criteria are met. This leads to a determination of the adequacy of sizing of a server.

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Background of the Invention

15 In modern scalable computing systems a common topology has three (logical and/or physical) tiers: (i) a presentation tier characterised by multiple workstations focusing on user interactions, (ii) a business tier characterised by multiple servers executing application/business logic, (iii) a data tier characterised by multiple databases working on data storage and organization. The physical systems are interconnected by a communications network, examples being Local or Wide Area Networks (LAN/WAN).

20 Such computing systems find application in many and varied fields, ranging from university research and teaching facilities to business applications. In fact, almost every business will utilise such a system to transact its functions and serve its clients. For example, a system may be used to control inventory, for image processing and accounts purposes, and for servicing client's enquiries. Many businesses have very large client
25 bases and may provide an extensive inventory of goods and services. One illustrative example is a telecommunications service provider (Telco) that serves a countrywide client base. The Telco's subscribers thus can number in the millions, and each customer will expect a near immediate response from a Customer Service Representative (CSR) to any inquiry, which can range from billing information, a request for a new service, or the
30 placing of orders for a product.

 Similar examples are seen in Utilities, insurance companies, banks, hospitals, law firms, accountancy firms, stock exchanges, universities and Government agencies, to name but a few.

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In the course of developing large-scale client server computing systems, an important part of the design process is to determine whether performance criteria such as (i) the average response time of a nominated transaction, and (ii) the proportion of CPU time (Client, Server or Database server) taken by a nominated transaction, are met. These determinations can lead to the conclusion that the computing hardware is correctly sized.

A known technique of performance testing is termed 'stress testing' or 'Benchmarking', by which simulated transaction records are 'fed' to the server computer, and as that loading is increased, performance criteria are measured.

10

Two specific examples of stress testing known in the prior art are disclosed in Published Japanese Application No. 10-187495 (NEC Corp), entitled "Method and Device for Evaluating High-load Emulation Performance", and in US Patent No. 5,790,425 (Wagle, assigned to Sun Microsystems, Inc.), issued on August 4, 1998, entitled "Generic Server Benchmarking Framework in Client Server Environment". Both of these prior art documents offer only an approximation of actual loading due to execution of the live application.

20

It is an object of the invention to at least address this shortcoming.

Summary of the Invention

The invention provides a method for testing server performance, comprising the steps of:

- 25 (a) forming a collection of live maps for a plurality of transactions for a chosen computing application;
- (b) transmitting a processing load, constituted by a plurality of said maps for a plurality of said transactions, to a server running said computing application; and
- (c) measuring one or more performance criteria for said server as it
- 30 executes said load.

The invention further provides a method for testing server performance, comprising the steps of:

- 35 (a) forming a collection of live maps for a plurality of transactions for a chosen computing application;

(b) transmitting a processing load, constituted by a plurality of said maps for a plurality of transactions, from a workstation to a server running said computing application;

(c) for each transaction within said load, returning a result to said
5 workstation; and

(d) measuring, at said workstation, one or more performance criteria based on execution of said load by said server.

The processing load can be varied by making changes to the number of maps and
10 the mix of transactions transmitted to the server. The measurements of the performance criteria will be repeated for each individual processing load. The measured performance criteria can be compared against predetermined performance measures to determine whether the server's capacity is satisfactory. The performance criteria can include the average response time for a transaction within a load, and the proportion of the server
15 CPU time taken by each transaction of the load. The performance criteria can be compared against predetermined stored performance measures to determine whether server capacity is satisfactory. The performance criteria measurement can be performed on the workstation, as opposed to the server. Further, the server can have connection to one or more database servers that execute portions of the load transactions. The
20 performance criteria can be end-to-end, namely from workstation to server to database server.

Brief Description of the Drawings

25 Embodiments of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a representative topology of a three tier computing system;

Fig. 2 is a generalised software architecture for a client-server environment;

Fig. 3 shows a representative transport layer package passed between client and
30 server;

Figs. 4a and 4b show topographies of stress testing systems; and

Fig. 5 shows the software elements created to implement performance testing.

Description of Preferred Embodiments and Best Mode

35

Fig. 1 is a representative topology of a three tier computing system 10 embodying the invention. The presentation (or client/user) tier is represented by a number (1...n) of workstations 20, that can be appropriate computing terminals, for example personal computers. The business tier is represented by a number (1...p) of servers 30, that can be dedicated mini or mainframe computers. The data tier is represented by a number (1...m) of database servers 40, which can include dynamically managed magnetic or optical storage media.

The computing system 10 is of an 'open' design, providing communication links 60,62,64, via external networks 70,72,74 to like-devices 22,32,42 and remote telephone terminals 24, 26.

The workstations 20, servers 30, and databases 40 are interconnected by a Local or Wide Area Network (LAN or WAN) 50. The LAN/WAN 50 carries information passing between each of the three basic elements described.

Client/Server systems such as shown in Fig. 1 find industrial application in the fields noted in the foregoing Background section. For the purposes of a non-limiting illustration, consider the example of a Telco operating across many States of the United States. Such a Telco will typically support local, regional, interstate and international voice and data calls, as well as cellular mobile voice and data traffic. Customers of the Telco can choose from a wide range of goods and services including, for example, the installation of second phone/fax/Internet lines, call forwarding, and messaging. They also will expect to be able to make enquiries of CSRs stationed at the workstations 20 concerning billing and service faults. It is not unreasonable to expect a modern-day Telco to have at least 1 million customers, typically requiring at least 500 CSRs. A Telco system infrastructure of this size can expect to handle about 15,000 business transactions per hour. Depending on the business function being used, the CSR will interact with the system one or more times. Each client/server interaction may require few to many database interactions (reading or writing to the physical database).

To give a better example of the size of computing hardware required to achieve such performance, the CSR workstations 20 could be Pentium™ personal computers running the Windows NT™ operating system, the servers 30 can be one or more IBM UNIX™-based 12-way RS6000™ S-70 machines, and the databases would require a

capacity of about 40 Gbytes, managed by an Oracle TM or IBM DB-2TM system. There would, of course, be other operational LAN/WAN servers required to handle data communications, as would be readily understood by a person skilled in the art.

5 Because of the very large hardware commitment, and expense, in such client/server systems, it is important that the correct sizing is achieved, in the sense that the hardware is neither too large nor too small to achieve the desired performance characteristics.

10 Fig. 2 is a generalised software architecture for a client-server environment. On the client machine, a Graphical User Interface (GUI) layer provides the human-machine interface for a user. The GUI layer interfaces with an application layer, where the specific computing operation or purpose performed by the client-server system resides. The application layer interfaces with a middleware layer that handles system aspects such
15 as system resource usage, operating system locks, shared memory access, container services, queuing services, transaction services, logical unit of work coordination, inter-process communications, user access control services and configuration retrieval services. As shown, application data, packaged into "maps" or "containers", is passed to the middleware layer. The middleware layer represents the operating system and
20 communications services. The transport layer of the client machine is in network communication with the server machine. The server machine replicates the transport layer, the middleware layer, and the application layer functions.

25 The content of a map/container includes the identification of the 'service' which the server machine application is to execute, together with the application data which is required by the particular application process. Fig. 3 shows a representative data packet having header information specific to the transport and middleware layers. Optionally, there can be similar trailer information. The map/container comprises the services information and application data.

30

 For a computing system as shown in Fig. 1, there can be many and varied configurations, however it is common for there to be a large number of client workstations 20, loading one or more application servers 30. In the performance (or stress) testing environment, it is common for the plurality of client machines to be
35 emulated by a single larger-scale server machine.

Fig. 4a shows an example of a server machine 100, emulating a client machine, in networked connection with a server machine 102 that is to stress-tested.

Fig. 4b shows the same server machine 100 emulating a client machine, however the 'server' to be tested includes a front-end application server 104 having connection to a plurality of database servers 106, in turn connected with data stores 108. The method of the invention is applicable to the arrangement of Figs. 4a and Fig. 4b, and other variations.

The methodology of the service performance testing includes the following (non-limiting) broad steps:

(i) The of live maps/containers for a plurality of transactions for a chosen application must firstly be collected. By "live" is meant actual transactions, as opposed to simulations.

(ii) The collection of containers is stored within the client emulation server.

(iii) A processing load is transmitted from the emulation server to the server under test, and the selected performance criteria are measured as the server executes the load.

(iv) The processing load is varied, both in terms of the total number of transactions and the transaction type (or mix), that is transmitted to the server.

(v) The performance criteria can be utilised to determine whether the sizing of the server meets intended design parameters.

Fig. 5 shows the software elements that are created to implement performance testing in the terms described above. The files are delimited by those created in advance of the performance testing (i.e. pre-runtime), represented by numeral 120, and those elements that are utilised in the course of the performance testing, represented by the numeral 122.

In the pre-runtime, a Business Workload Definition File is created and populated. This file and a mapping file (mapping Business Transactions to Machine Transactions) are merged to create the machine workload, resulting in a Machine Workload Execution Definition File. In the run-time, the pre-stored live maps are selectively read by a map sending program which executes the Workload Execution File to place the process load onto the server 102 running the application under test. The Map Sending Program is replicated: one per client machine being simulated. The server 102 under test executes the requested load and returns a reply map. Such reply maps are stored on the emulated client machine in the Maps Received File. It is necessary for the Business Workload Definition File and the Mapping File to relate to the same application that is being run by the server 102 under test. In the same way, the stored maps must relate to the same server application.

The performance criteria, such as the average response time of a transaction or the proportion of CPU time taken by a transaction, can be determined by the server under test itself, or can be determined on the client emulation server (to include the communications link performance). Whichever way, the results of the performance testing are stored in a Logging File on the client emulation server or on the server under test.

An example of the Business Workload Definition File, for a Telco customer enquiry and ordering system (such as generally described above) is as follows:

	EQ	79	Enquiries
25	EA	21	Account enquiries
	ES	10	Statement enquiries
	EG	21	General enquiries
	ET	34	Toll enquires
	EL	14	Calling card

The first line represents that, of the total workload, 79% is occupied by "Enquiries". The following rows specify the sub-type of enquiries within that 79%. For example, an Account enquiry represents 21% of the total enquiries, while the total enquiries are 79% of the total workload.

An example of the file which maps Business Transactions (of sub-type DA) to a sequence of maps to be executed is as follows:

5 * The Master Workload Detail file

 *SubTyp DA (The particular subtype being defined

 * (A sequence of individual maps to execute

 * vgrou03

 * vgrou04

10 * vgrprd06

 * vgrprd06

 * vgracc01

 * vgracc03

 [vgracc63, 1; vgracc61,1; vgracc53,1;] (Name, relative probability

15

An example of Machine Workload Execution definition file is as follows:

 *Execution Script for build56. Script. T1

 * Subtype = EA

20 VGRACC38 VC38 I.VGRACC38. XXX. 060

 VGRACCNO VCNO I.VGRACCNO. XXX. 035

 VGRPRPDF VTDP I.VGRPRPDF. XXX. 005

 VGRPRP06 VP06 I.VGRPRD06. XXX. 064

 VGRACC01 VC01 I.VGRACC01. XXX. 068

25 VGRACC65 VC65 I.VGRACC65. XXX. 026

 * Subtype = EA

 VGRACC38 VC38. I.VGRACC38. XXX 060

 VGRACCNO VCNO I.VGRACCNO. XXX. 004

 VGRPRPDF VTPD I.VGRPRPDF. XXX 065

30 VGRPRD06 VT06 I.VGRPRD06. XXX. 015

 VGRACC01 VC0 I.VGRACC01. XXX. 042

 VGRACC69 VC69 I.VGRACC69. XXX. 032

 * Subtype = EG

 VGRACC38 VC38. I.VGRACC38. XXX. 003

35 VGRACCNO VCNO I.VGRACCNO. XXX. 013

VGRPRPF VTPD I.VGRPRPF. XXX. 116
VGRPRD06 VT06 I.VGRPRD06. XXX. 069
VGRACC01 VC01 I.VGRACC01. XXX. 096

5 The third field is the name of the specific map file.

Example

Referring again to Fig. 2, examples of implementations for the middleware
10 layers include the IBM CICS™ or ENCNIA™ systems. In relation to the transport layer, examples of implementations are either TCP/IP or SNA. Any convenient physical layer network can be utilised, such as a token passing LAN. The application layer must have the capability, either inherently or by specific coding, to create or write live maps.

15 The measurements shown below were performed on a single node (model 595) of an RS/6000 SP 2 system.

The Business Workload Distribution file was of a similar composition to that shown above. The client emulating server machine also was an RS/6000 machine. The
20 performance metric was to determine the maximum CICS throughput rate for the specified enquiry workload. Workload was increased in the increments of two, three, four and six simulated terminals, with the response time being calculated for each transaction.

25 The following table represents the individual transactions for the case of “end time”, the second column represents the discrete individual “transactions”, the third column shows the “start time”, and the fourth column shows the overall response time.

	11/26/98, 15:23:01, i. VGRACCNO.xxx.059, 15:23:00, 0.94499345
30	11/26/98, 15:23:02, i. VGRPRPDF .xxx. 065, 15:23:01, 1.52325305
	11/26/98, 15:23:03, i.VGRPRD06. xxx. 007, 15:23:02, 0.73049395
	11/26/98, 15:23:04, i.VGRPRD06. xxx. 091, 15:23:03, 1.096042
	11/26/98, 15:23:07, i.VGRACC01. xxx. 042, 15:23:04, 3.0945521
	11/26/98, 15:23:09, i.VGRACC05. xxx. 019, 15:23:07, 2.28059385
35	11/26/98, 15:23:13, i.VGRACC38. xxx. 012, 15:23:09, 3.57596095

11/26/98, 15:23:14, i.VGRACCNO.xxx.114, 15:23:13, 0.59853705
11/26/98, 15:23:15, i.VGRPRPDF.xxx.005, 15:23:14, 1.61760075

5

11/26/98, 15:28:34, i.VGRACCNO.xxx.013, 15:28:34, 0.4899564
11/26/98, 15:28:34, i.VGRPRPDF.xxx.014, 15:28:34, 0.43951875
11/26/98, 15:28:35, i.VGRPRD06.xxx.064, 15:28:35, 0.33546205
11/26/98, 15:28:35, i.VGRPRD06.xxx.007, 15:28:35, 0.41166125
11/26/98, 15:28:37, i.VGRACC01.xxx.042, 15:28:35, 1.8305234
11/26/98, 15:28:38, i.VGRACC05.xxx.098, 15:28:37, 1.0756061
11/26/98, 15:28:40, i.VGRACC38.xxx.087, 15:28:38, 1.6714174
11/26/98, 15:28:40, i.VGRACCNO.xxx.013, 15:28:40, 0.298258

15

11/26/98, 15:28:41, i.VGRPRPDF.xxx.065, 15:28:40, 0.94981075
11/26/98, 15:28:42, i.VGRPRD06.xxx.015, 15:28:41, 0.5698334
11/26/98, 15:28:44, i.VGRACC01.xxx.042, 15:28:42, 2.63401085
11/26/98, 15:28:46, i.VGRACC38.xxx.060, 15:28:44, 1.13616375
11/26/98, 15:28:46, i.VGRACCNO.xxx.013, 15:28:46, 0.4442817

20

11/26/98, 15:28:47, i.VGRPRPDF.xxx.065, 15:28:46, 0.7981063
11/26/98, 15:28:47, i.VGRPRD06.xxx.091, 15:28:47, 0.4851278
11/26/98, 15:28:48, i.VGRPRD06.xxx.069, 15:28:47, 0.49962255
11/26/98, 15:28:49, i.VGRACC01.xxx.068, 15:28:48, 1.5193212
11/26/98, 15:28:51, i.VGRACC05.xxx.019, 15:28:49, 1.1684261

25

11/26/98, 15:28:52, i.VGRACC38.xxx.012, 15:28:51, 1.72167155
11/26/98, 15:28:53, i.VGRACCNO.xxx.059, 15:28:52, 0.62635305
11/26/98, 15:28:55, i.VGRPRPDF.xxx.014, 15:28:53, 2.46022115
11/26/98, 15:28:56, i.VGRPRD06.xxx.007, 15:28:55, 0.3547103

30

11/26/98, 15:28:57, i.VGRACC01.xxx.016, 15:28:56, 1.07111495
11/26/98, 15:28:58, i.VGRACC63.xxx.110, 15:28:57, 0.7502934
11/26/98, 15:28:59, i.VGRACC38.xxx.087, 15:28:58, 1.04842535
11/26/98, 15:28:59, i.VGRACCNO.xxx.029, 15:28:59, 0.444598
11/26/98, 15:29:00, i.VGRPRPDF.xxx.005, 15:28:59, 0.6602939
11/26/98, 15:29:00, i.VGRPRD06.xxx.064, 15:29:00, 0.3538677

35

11/26/98, 15:29:01, i.VGRACC01.xxx.096, 15:29:00, 1.05042975

The following table summarises the performance testing, where the first column represents the number of terminals, and the second column represents the number of transactions per second.

5

Terminals	Trans /sec	Comments
2	5.8	
3	6.1	
4	7.2	
6	4.8	Blocking on I/O write
4	9	
11	7.75	Blocking again

When the number of terminals is increased to six, the reduction in the throughput indicated that there was blocking on the I/O writing, and an appropriate adjustment was made, namely the parameter 'CisTimeMode' was set to 0. With this change made, four terminals were simulated, then eleven. The reduction in the number of transactions per second indicates the existence of another bottleneck. This led to the suggestion that there is insufficient memory on the server machine to handle the load generated by eleven client machines.

15 The example presented increased the number of terminals, while maintaining the Workload Execution Definition file as constant. It is equally possible to hold the number of terminals fixed and increase the number and mix of transactions.

20 One advantage of the invention is that the GUI layer (see Fig. 2) format can be changed and yet there would be no requirement to re-record the set of live maps.

It will be understood that the scope of the invention fully encompasses other embodiments which may become obvious to those skilled in the art, and that the scope of the present invention is accordingly to be limited by nothing other than the appended claims.

25

I claim:

1. A method for testing server performance, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) forming a collection of live maps for a plurality of transactions for a
5 chosen computing application;
 - (b) transmitting a processing load, constituted by a plurality of said maps
for a plurality of said transactions, to a server running said computing application; and
 - (c) measuring one or more performance criteria for said server as it
executes said load.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of:
 - (d) varying said processing load by making changes to the number of said
maps and the mix of said transactions transmitted to said server; and
whereby said measuring step (c) is repeated for each individual processing load.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2, comprising the further step of:
 - (e) comparing said performance criteria against predetermined performance
measures to determine whether said server's capacity is satisfactory.
- 20 4. The method of claim 3, whereby said performance criteria include
average response time for a transaction within a load.
5. The method of claim 3, whereby said performance criteria include the
proportion of server CPU time taken by each transaction of said load.
- 25 6. A method for testing server performance, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) forming a collection of live maps for a plurality of transactions for a
chosen computing application;
 - (b) transmitting a processing load, constituted by a plurality of said maps
30 for a plurality of transactions, from a workstation to a server running said computing
application;
 - (c) for each transaction within said load, returning a result to said
workstation; and
 - (d) measuring, at said workstation, one or more performance criteria based
35 on execution of said load by said server.

7. The method of claim 6, comprising the further step of:

(e) varying said processing load by making changes to the number of said maps and the mix of transactions transmitted to said server; and
whereby said measuring step (d) is repeated for each individual processing load.

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8. The method of claim 7, whereby said performance criteria include average response time from workstation-to-server-to-workstation for a transaction within a load, and/or the proportion of CPU time of said server taken by each transaction of said load.

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9. A method for testing server performance, comprising the steps of:

(a) forming a collection of live maps for a plurality of transactions for a chosen computing application;

transmitting a processing load, constituted by a plurality of said maps for a plurality of said transactions, to a server running said computing application;

(c) varying said processing load by making changes to the number of said maps and the mix of said transactions transmitted to said server; and

(d) measuring one or more performance criteria as said server executes said load.

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10. A system for testing server performance, said system comprising:

(a) a workstation sized to represent a plurality of individual client computing stations, said workstation including a data store of a collection of live maps for a plurality of transactions for a chosen application;

25 (b) a server running said chosen application; and

(c) a communications connection between said workstation and said server;
and

wherein said workstation is operable to transmit a processing load to said server, via said communications connection, constituted by a plurality of said maps for a plurality of said transactions, and said server measures one or more performance criteria as it executes said load.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein said workstation is further operable to vary said processing load by making changes to the number of said maps and the mix of

said transactions that are transmitted to the server, and said server measures said performance criteria for each said load it executes.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein said server compares said measured
5 performance criteria against predetermined performance measures to determine whether its capacity is satisfactory.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein said server maintains a data store of
said performance data measures.
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14. The system of claim 13, wherein said server produces an output
representing said performance data measures.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein said performance data criteria includes
the average response time for a transaction within said load.

16. The system of claim 12, wherein said performance data criteria includes
the proportion of server CPU time taken by each transaction of said load.

17. The system of claim 12, wherein said application server has connection
to one or more database servers, said database servers executing portions of said load
transactions.
20

18. The system of claim 12, wherein said application server is formed by a
25 plurality of servers, and each of said server plurality has connection to one or more database servers, said database servers executing portions of said load transactions.

19. A system for testing server performance, said system comprising:
(a) a workstation sized to represent a plurality of individual client
30 computing stations, said workstation including a datastore of a collection of live maps for a plurality of transactions for a chosen application;
(b) a server running said chosen application; and
(c) a communications connection between said workstation and said server;
and

wherein said workstation is operable to transmit a processing load to said server, via said communications connection, constituted by a plurality of said maps for a plurality of said transactions, and said workstation measures one or more performance criteria of said server as said server executes said load.

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20. The system of claim 19, wherein said performance criteria include the proportion of server CPU time taken by each transaction of said load.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein said performance criteria include the
10 proportion of server CPU time taken by each transaction of said load.

22. A system for testing server performance, said system comprising:
(a) a workstation sized to represent a plurality of individual client
computing stations, said workstation including a datastore of a collection of live maps for
15 a plurality of transactions for a chosen application;
(b) a server running said chosen application;
(c) at least one database in communication with said server; and
(d) a communications connection between said workstation and said server;
and

20 wherein said workstation is operable to transmit a processing load for said database to said server via said communications connection, and said server measures one or more performance criteria as said load is executed.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein said workstation is further operable to
25 vary said processing load by making changes to the number of said maps and the mix of said transactions that are transmitted to the server, and said server measures said performance criteria for each said load it executes

24. The system of claim 23, wherein said server compares said measured
30 performance criteria against predetermined performance measures to determine whether its capacity is satisfactory.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein said server maintains a data store of
said performance data measures.

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27. The system of claim 23, wherein said performance criteria includes the
5 proportion of server CPU time taken by each transaction of said load.

Performance Testing of Server Systems

ABSTRACT

5

A method for testing server machine performance is described. A client-emulating server machine (100) has a collection of live data maps for plurality of transactions for a chosen computing application. A server (102) is in communication with the workstation (100). The workstation (100) transmits a processing load, constituted by plurality of the maps for plurality of transactions, to the server (102) as it executes the computing application. The server (102) measures one or more performance criteria as it executes the load. The performance criteria can include the average response time for a transaction within a load, and the proportion of server CPU time taken by each transaction of the load. By varying the processing load generated by the workstation (100) and assessing the measured performance criteria, it is possible to determine whether the server (102) has satisfactory capacity.

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15

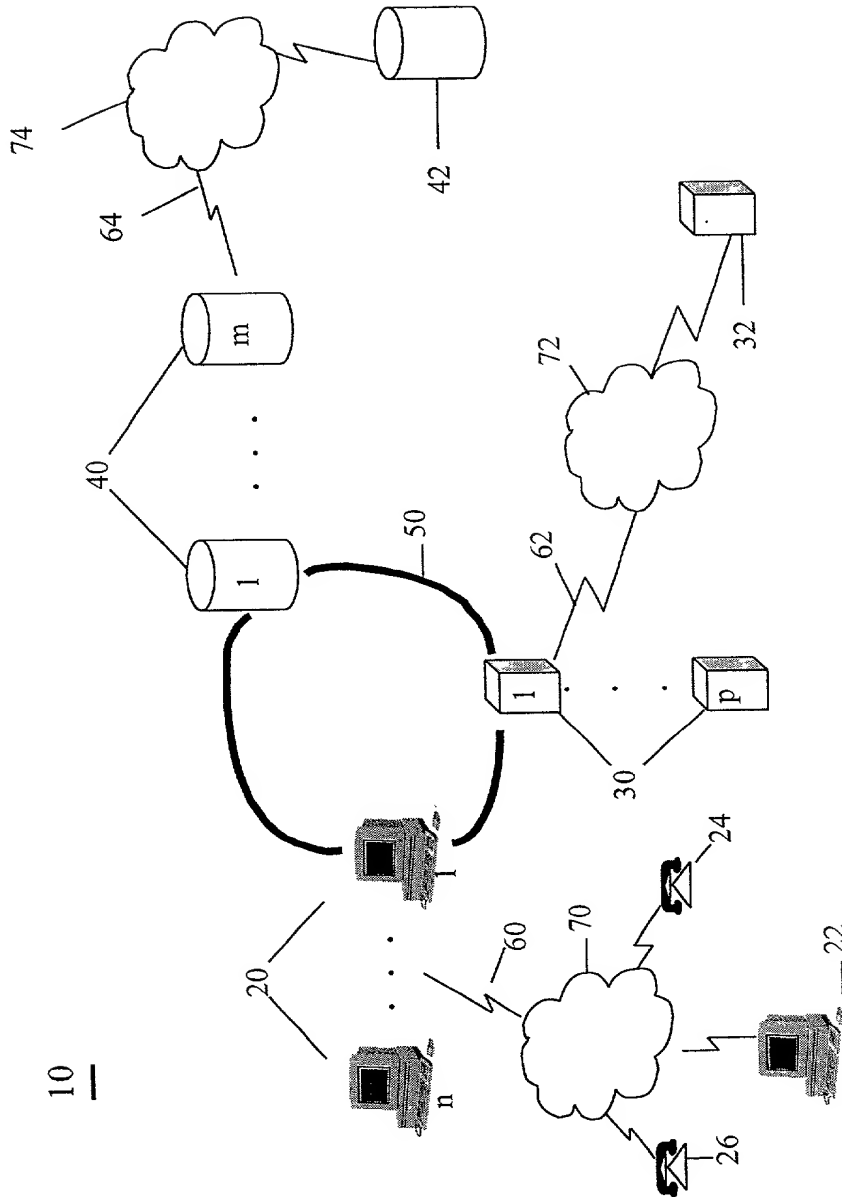
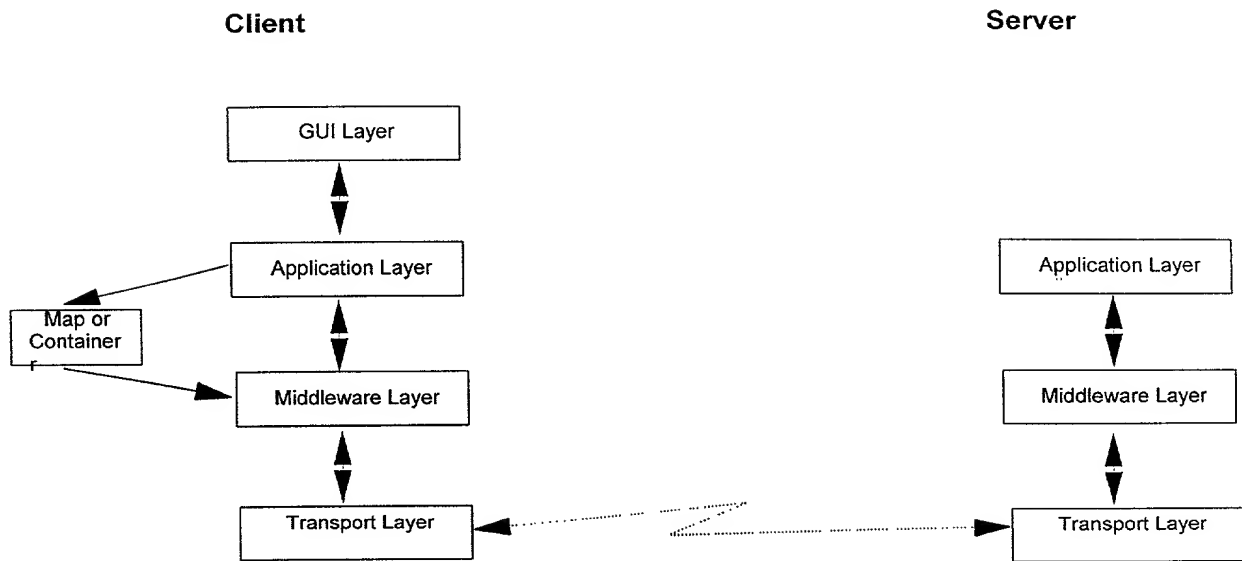
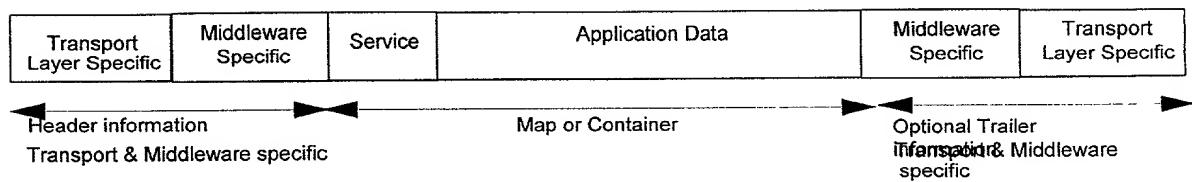


Fig. 1

**Fig. 2****Fig. 3**

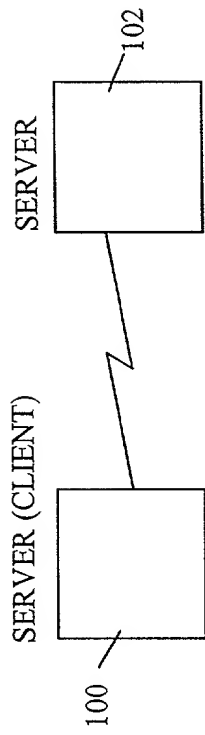


Fig. 4a

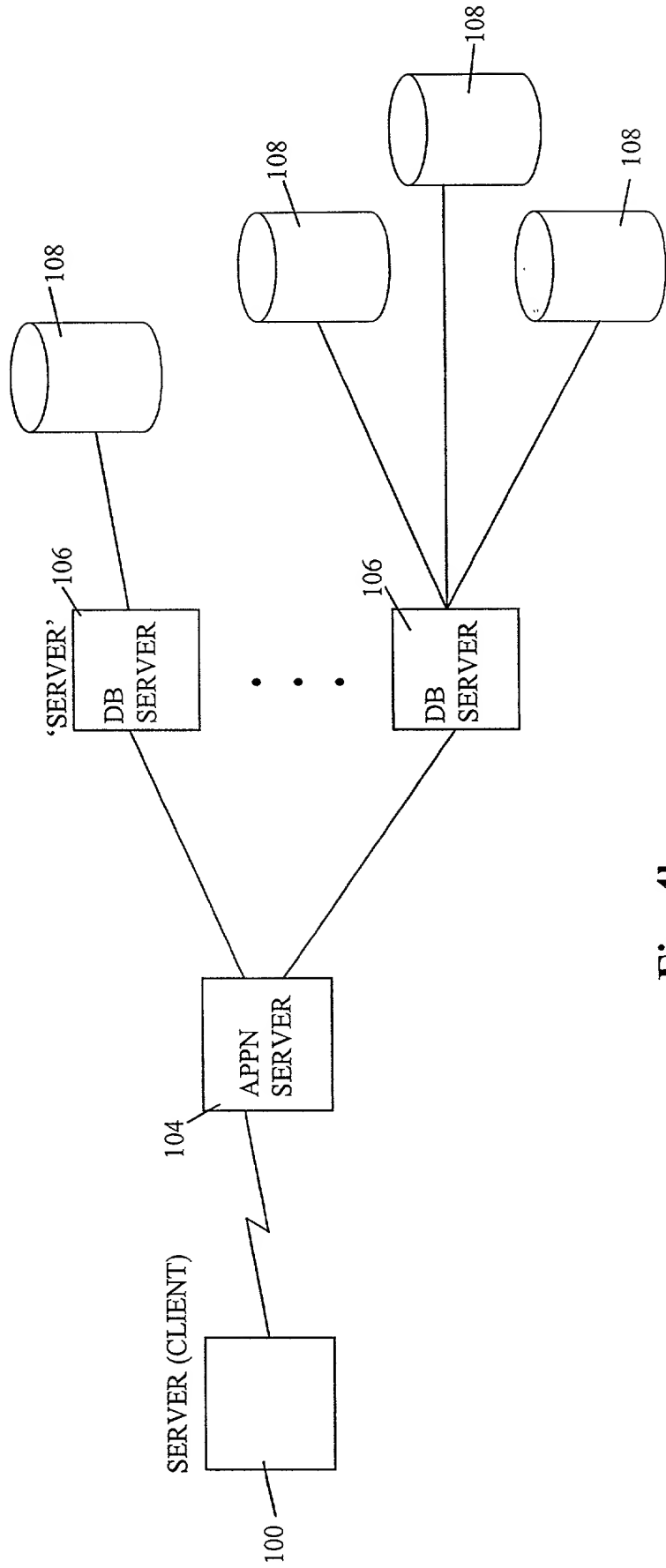
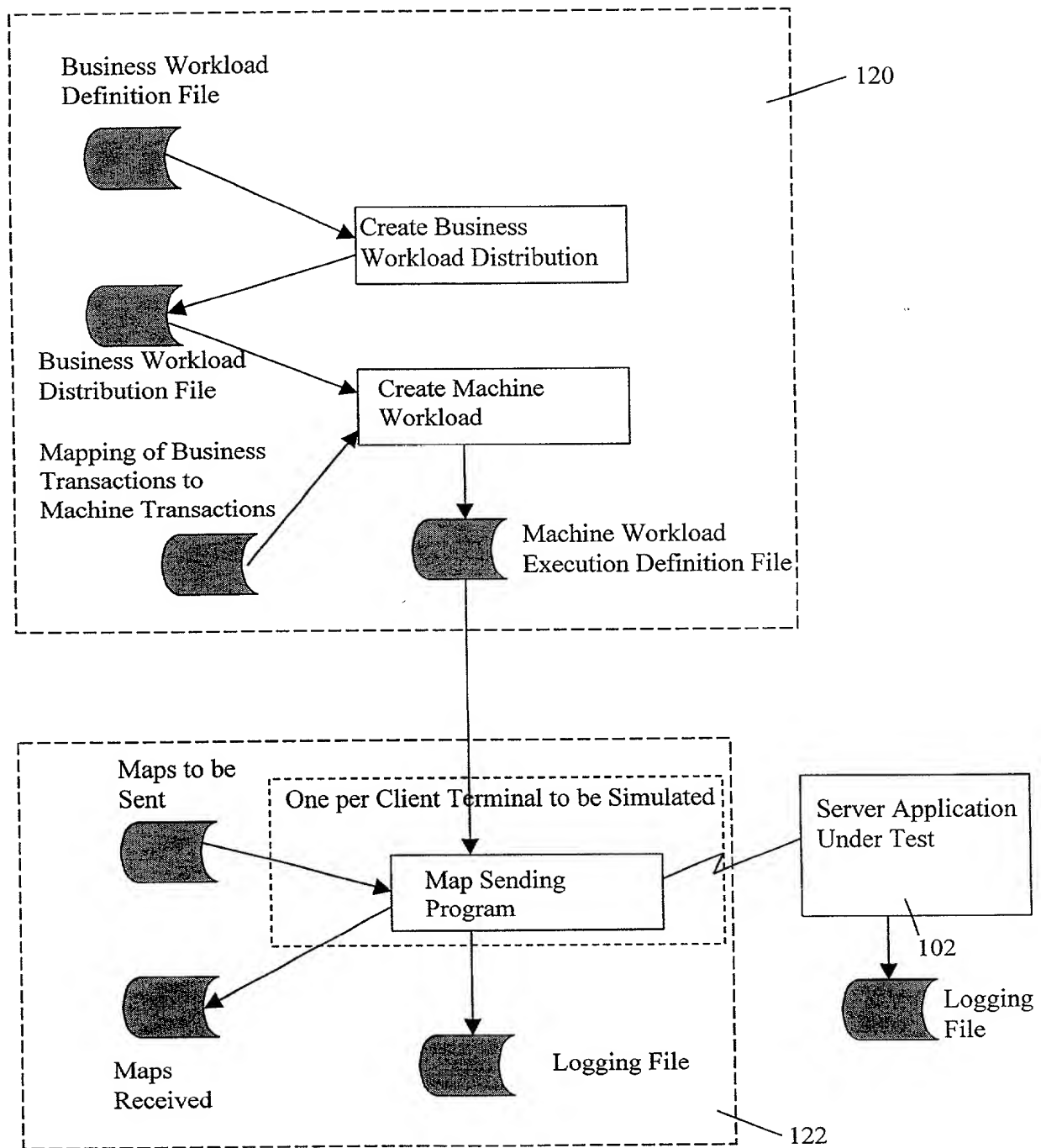


Fig. 4b

**Fig. 5**

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

PERFORMANCE TESTING OF SERVER SYSTEMS

the specification of which (check one)

X is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____ as

Application Serial No. _____

and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No
_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No
_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)
_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States Application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of the application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application;

_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (list name and registration number).

Manny W. Schecter (Reg. 31,722), Terry J. Ilardi (Reg. 29,936), Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. 26,914), Edward A. Pennington (Reg. 32,588), John E. Hoel (Reg. 26,279), Joseph C. Redmond, Jr. (Reg. 18,753), Kevin M. Jordan (Reg. 40,277), Stephen C. Kaufman (Reg. 29,551), Jay. P. Sbrollini (Reg. 36,266), David M. Shofi (Reg. 39,835), Robert M. Trepp (Reg. 25,933), Louis P. Herzberg (Reg. 41,500), and Douglas W. Cameron (Reg. 31,596), Paul Otterstedt (Reg. 37,411), Louis J. Percello (Reg. 33,206) and Daniel P. Morris (Reg. 32,053).

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.

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